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T 1/12/79 ~~CONFIDENTIAL~~ OPJ

20 MAR 1981

MEMORANDUM FOR: Chief, East Asia Division (C)

VIA: Deputy Director for Operations

FROM: Gerald K. Hughes, Jr.
Recorder, Honor and Merit Awards Board

SUBJECT: Career Intelligence Medal -
Mr. George E. Joannides (U)

1. The Honor and Merit Awards Board is pleased to notify you that the Career Intelligence Medal has been approved for Mr. Joannides in recognition of his career contributions to this Agency. You are requested to inform him of the award and of the security provisions governing it as set forth in the attached memorandum from the Office of Security. (U)

2. The Director has indicated a particular interest in awards being presented to employees as soon as possible after their approval. Therefore, excluding those instances where unusual circumstances or the awardee's preference dictate otherwise, every effort should be made to arrange a prompt presentation for maximum effectiveness. Arrangements for presentation may be made with the Executive Secretary, Honor and Merit Awards Board, extension 4473, room 1 D 70, Headquarters. Should there be some reason for delay in presentation, please have a member of your staff inform that office. (U)

/s/ Gerald K. Hughes, Jr.

Gerald K. Hughes, Jr.

Att

Distribution:
O & 1 - Addressee
1 - OPF w/Form 600
1 - ExecSec/HMAB

DERIVATIVE CL BY 468825
☐ DECL ☒ REVW ON 3/15/01
DERIVED FROM AGE 3.4 ;
Attached Form 600 ; Name

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CLASSIFY AS APPROPRIATE

ORF

DD/A 4039

Executive Registry
81-744

RECOMMENDATION FOR HONOR OR MERIT AWARD (See HR 20-37)

(Submit eight copies with: description of performance or service warranting award; biographic profile; latest performance appraisal report; and unclassified citation)

1. SOCIAL SECURITY NO.	2. NAME OF PERSON RECOMMENDED (Last, First, Middle)	3. POSITION TITLE
067180743	Joannides, George E.	Ops Officer, EA

4. GRADE	5. YOB	6. SD	7. OFFICE OF ASSIGNMENT	8. EXTENSION	9. RECOMMENDED AWARD
GS-16	1922	D	DDO/EA	N/A	Career Intelligence Medal

10. INCLUSIVE DATES FOR WHICH RECOMMENDED	11. IF RETIRING, DATE OF RETIREMENT	12. POSTHUMOUS			
			YES	X	NO
September 1950 - 12 January 1979	12 January 1979				

13. HOME ADDRESS (include ZIP CODE)	14. NAME OF SPOUSE	15. HOME PHONE
12313 Falls Road Potomac, Maryland	Violet	279-7144

Have any other persons received or been recommended for an award for this service or act?

- ☐ yes (If yes, attach list of full names and awards.)
- ☒ no

TITLE AND SIGNATURE OF EMPLOYEE MAKING RECOMMENDATION	DATE
James N. Glerum Chief, Career Management Staff	03 FEB 1981

	TITLE AND SIGNATURE	DATE
HEAD OF D CAREER SERVICE (Career service of nominee)	John N. McMahon Deputy Director for Operations	
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CAREER SERVICE	same as below	
DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF OPERATING COMPONENT	John N. McMahon Deputy Director for Operations	09 FEB 1981

REPORT OF HONOR AND MERIT AWARDS BOARD

The Honor and Merit Awards Board having considered the foregoing recommendation on 3 March 1981:

- ☒ recommends approval
- ☐ does not recommend approval
- ☐ recommends award of

REMARKS

APPROVED	SIGNATURE
/s/ B. R. Inman	Harry E. Fitzwater 13 MAR 1981
Acting Director of Central Intelligence	TYPED NAME OF CHAIRMAN, HONOR AND MERIT AWARDS BOARD: Harry E. Fitzwater
DATE: 15 MAR 1981	SIGNATURE: /s/ Gerald K. Hughes, Jr. 12 MAR 1981
	TYPED NAME OF RECORDER: Gerald K. Hughes, Jr.

FORM 600 OBSOLETE PREVIOUS EDITIONS

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It is recommended that Mr. George F. Joannides be awarded the Career Intelligence Medal for his more than twenty-eight years of devoted and effective service to the Agency.

Mr. Joannides was born on 5 July 1922 in Athens, Greece, and emigrated to New York City in 1923 with his family. He became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1943. He obtained an A.B. degree in liberal arts from the City College of New York in 1944 and an L.L.B. degree from St. John's University Law School in Brooklyn in 1947. He speaks Greek at the native level. He entered on duty as a GS-07 Contract Employee on 25 September 1950 and in January 1951 was sent to Athens as a case officer working for SR Division. By 1955 he had risen to the GS-12 level and he had received consistently excellent evaluations. In addition to Soviet operations, he engaged in others in the communist party, covert action, and local penetration fields. He was converted to Staff Employee in August 1958.

Mr. Joannides remained in Athens another four years and became a recognized expert on Greek political affairs. In 1959 he was made Deputy Chief of the Political Section of the Internal Operations Branch, and his supervisor wrote of him, "His exceptional familiarity with the area and the language coupled with his equally great ability to handle agents in a truly professional manner give him the ability to analyze acutely and accurately various political events on a daily basis." He was promoted to GS-13 the following year.

In 1962 Mr. Joannides returned to the United States and took on his first non-Greek operational assignment as Deputy Chief of the Psychological Warfare Branch of Task Force W in Miami. He was promoted to GS-14 in December of that year. In his first fitness report in this assignment the reviewing officer commented, "Subject is an unusually competent officer in the field of covert action operations in that he blends a flair for this activity with sound tradecraft principles and a firm adherence to valid reporting techniques." He did particularly well with the handling of exile student and teacher groups. Later in 1963 he was moved up to be Chief of the Branch.

Mr. Joannides returned to Athens in July 1964 as head of a ten-person branch engaged in Soviet and Cuban operations, and performed in a Strong manner. In 1965 he was shifted to head the Branch conducting internal Greek operations. In this capacity he was again described as outstanding in covert action activity. He was promoted to GS-15 in September 1968. He remained in Athens until September 1969, when he was reassigned to Headquarters as Chief of the Greece-Cyprus Desk. This assignment lasted only six months, however, because,

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in recognition of his expertise in covert action, he was hand-picked by the new Chief of Vietnam Station to head the Station's Political Operations Division. This consisted of four Branches and 33 personnel and was engaged in the conduct of clandestine intelligence collection and covert action activities through unilateral operations in the incompatible political, military, mass organizations and media fields. He carried out this assignment in a Strong manner.

When Vietnam Station was reorganized in March 1972, Mr. Joannides became Deputy Chief of the newly created Saigon Base, which had about 100 members. He was particularly praised for his management skills in this demanding new assignment, and he was increasingly entrusted with the day-to-day management of the operations conducted by the Base. Mr. Joannides remained in this assignment until April 1973.

Mr. Joannides' next assignment was as Chief of the Covert Action Staff of Western Hemisphere Division. In July 1974 he was transferred to the equivalent position in East Asia Division. His experience in this field of operational activity served him and the Agency well in both these assignments, which were carried out in a Strong manner during a period which saw considerable redirection of the Directorate's overall covert action activities. Mr. Joannides entered the super-grade ranks in April 1975 with his promotion to GS-16.

On 19 January 1976 Mr. Joannides was selected to head East Asia Division's Operations Evaluation and Management Staff, a larger assignment for which his demonstrated managerial ability qualified him well. The primary responsibility of this staff was to handle all programming and budgeting for the Division (over 900 personnel at the time, and with a budget of about $50,000,000), to handle all Freedom of Information Act and Privacy Act inquiries and Congressional inquiries, and to perform numerous ad hoc research projects for Division management. Mr. Joannides' managerial abilities came through as expected, and he was moreover commended by the Chief of Division for his creativity in devising new and improved methodology for reporting on resource management. He continued in this assignment until June 1978, when he was selected to assist the Agency's senior coordinator for work with the House Select Committee on Assassinations. He was rated Outstanding for his handling of this unusual special assignment, in which he continued until his retirement on 12 January 1979.

As the above indicates, Mr. Joannides' substantial contributions over the years were made in three somewhat overlapping phases. He began as an area expert, a specialist in and expert on Greek affairs for the first twelve years of his Agency career. During this period he developed his expertise in the discipline of covert action, and

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he was later to deploy this expertise in key assignments in two important installations, each of which was at the time of his service at the very forefront of Agency concerns. In between the two assignments he returned to the Greek scene as a manager of the sort of operations of which he had earlier been an executant. In the second phase of his Vietnam tour he demonstrated the managerial talents which led to his final assignment in the management of our largest Division, after reengagement in covert action management at the Division level. The diversity of his assignments, and the way he rose to the challenge of each, cumulatively add up to an important contribution to the work of this Directorate and clearly justify the issuance to Mr. Joannides of a Career Intelligence Medal.

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